



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**RIVER TO SEA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO) IS
BRINGING TRANSPORTATION & ENGINEERING TO LIFE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

DAYTONA BEACH, FL: On September 21, 2018, the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) will be hosting a transportation and civil engineering (TRAC) training workshop for Mainland High School teachers and volunteer mentors. TRAC is a hands-on program that lets students use math and science to solve real world problems in transportation and civil engineering. This program aims to improve work force diversity which helps to resolve one of the most pressing problems faced by the transportation today: a critical shortage of civil engineers.

TRAC is an American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) led initiative featuring hands-on activities that introduces students in middle and high schools to the world of transportation and civil engineering and inspires them to pursue careers in those fields. This new program being instituted at Mainland High School is designed for use in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) classes.

During the TRAC training, volunteer mentors and teachers from Mainland High School in Daytona Beach will learn about motion in transportation and magnetic-levitation (mag-lev) trains as well as gain tools to bring into the classroom to teach their students this year. This program forms a great partnership between the River to Sea TPO and Mainland High School.

The River to Sea TPO is currently seeking engineers and transportation-related professionals to serve as volunteer mentors. The role of the volunteer is to be a mentor to the students and assist the teachers in presenting the TRAC material. They also provide technical assistance and answer students' college and career related questions.

TRAC training will be held on September 21, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the River to Sea TPO office located at 2570 W. International Speedway Blvd., Suite 100, Daytona Beach FL 32114.

Inquiries regarding serving as a volunteer mentor may be directed to:
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More information on the TRAC program is available at <https://tracrides.transportation.org/>.

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For additional information or media inquiries, contact Pamela Blankenship, River to Sea TPO Community Outreach Coordinator, at PBlankenship@r2ctpo.org or 386-226-0422 ext. 20416.